

10 January 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Charles W. Robinson
Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee

FROM : Dr. Sayre Stevens
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Deep Seabed Mining Legislation and the International
Law of the Sea Negotiations

REFERENCE : NSC-U/SM-137Q, 3 January 1977

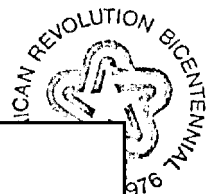
1. The Central Intelligence Agency concurs in the submission of this options paper on domestic deep seabed mining legislation and the ongoing international law of the sea negotiations. In our judgment the paper correctly describes the most important U.S. LOS interests and the possible international ramifications of unilateral actions on deep seabed mining. The essential options have been properly stated and we have no additional information to assist in making a choice among them.

2. As explained in the past, this Agency's collection and operational needs are best served by maintaining maximum freedom of the seas. In our view negotiating tactics that strive to keep the LOS Conference alive with the hope of ultimately attaining a comprehensive treaty are still most consistent with this objective.

SAYRE STEVENS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

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1	DCI				
2	DDCI				
3	D/DCI/IC				
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5	DDI	X			
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC				
10	LC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	Asst/DCI				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
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SUSPENSE

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Remarks:

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